

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 8, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 139**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Beall**

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members Ammiano, Block, Eng, Gatto, Hagman, Hall, Harkey, Hill, Logue, Mitchell, Olsen, Pan, Solorio, and Williams)*

~~(Coauthor: Senator)~~ *(Coauthors: Senators Cannella, De Leon, DeSaulnier, Fuller, Hancock, Liu, Runner, Strickland, Wolk, and Wright)*

March 22, 2012

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 139—Relative to Foster Care Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 139, as amended, Beall. Foster Care Month.

This measure would designate May 2012 as Foster Care Month in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Progress can be measured by the opportunities we  
2 pass on to our children. For the youth in foster care across our  
3 state, we can give them the chance to have a safe, permanent,  
4 loving home where they can feel secure and thrive; and

5 WHEREAS, California has the largest foster care population of  
6 any state, and most children in foster care are removed from their  
7 parents by the county child welfare departments, in conjunction  
8 with juvenile dependency courts, for a variety of reasons including  
9 abuse, abandonment, or neglect; and

1 WHEREAS, During 2011, California's foster care system  
2 provided for the care of approximately 55,000 children on average  
3 each day; and

4 WHEREAS, By October of 2011, 5,342 children were adopted  
5 and 2,056 children obtained guardianship; and

6 WHEREAS, In recent years, more than one-half of the children  
7 leaving foster care returned to their families; and

8 WHEREAS, Each year, approximately 4,000 to 5,000 foster  
9 youth reach the age of eighteen in the foster care system without  
10 ever being adopted *by*, or finding permanency with, a family that  
11 loves, nurtures, protects, and guides them; and

12 WHEREAS, Children "aging out" of foster care need and  
13 deserve a support system as they work to secure affordable housing,  
14 pursue higher education, and acquire adequate employment; and

15 WHEREAS, During Foster Care Month, we recognize the efforts  
16 of California's adoptive and foster families, relative caregivers,  
17 social workers, local governments, faith-based and community  
18 organizations, and others that are improving the lives of young  
19 people in foster care, and encourage all Californians to partake in  
20 efforts to serve these children in the year ahead; now, therefore,  
21 be it

22 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
23 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates the month of  
24 May 2012 as Foster Care Month in California and encourages the  
25 people of the State of California to work together to ensure a  
26 brighter future for foster youth; and be it further

27 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
28 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.